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FRANK L. HOOGS.....MANAGER
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The Use Of Opium In Hawaii

It is perhaps surprising that there is not more opium-smoking than there is in Honolulu. For some years this has been probably the only civilized community in the world which is without laws to suppress or regulate the use of this drug. Under our old government even possession of opium without a license was an offense calling for severe punishment, but when the law was declared to be in conflict with American laws, no new one was enacted to take its place. Since then The Star has several times called attention to the spread of the opium habit among Hawaiians. Such a spread is a natural result of the utter failure of the legislature to provide any regulations.

With our large Chinese population, opium-using is certain to be kept up. It appears that the Chinese is so constituted physically that he does not suffer the same consequences as persons of other races, from use of the drug. But as San Francisco has found for many years, he communicates the habit to others,—the most horrifying sights of San Francisco's slums are dens where white men and women, boys and girls, lie victims of opium. It is only natural that similar establishments should spring up here to an even worse extent, as long as we do nothing to stop them. Though the evil has not grown here as fast as it might have been expected to grow, it is worse than is commonly known, for opium dens grow silently and in dark and secret places.

The Hawaiian monarchy and later the Republic protected the people of the islands from the contamination by Chinese opium-users to which all are exposed now. Under American law, it is not possible to have a law of equal strictness with the old one, for the courts have held that we cannot legally make it an offense merely to have possession of a drug which is an article of commerce. But the use, importation and sale of opium are subject to regulation just the same as the liquor business. One of the first duties of the next legislature will be to enact the severest kind of an opium law that will stand in the courts.

A Sharp Tongue: An Evil Response

The story which came over the wire to the effect that Sarah Bernhardt, "the Divine Sara," has been rotten-egged in Quebec will cause no surprise to those who remember her experience in Canada some ten years ago. The French Canadian are intensely religious and intensely loyal to the Roman Catholic church. The Divine Sara is not so religious—nor is she Roman Catholic to any noticeable extent. Occasionally she has periods of reaction and becomes religious but the attacks are never serious.

On the occasion of her former visit to Canada she had not had a religious fit for some time and in an interview she made remarks about the devotion of the French Canadians to their church very nearly precipitating a riot in Montreal. She played in the French quarter of the city but nearly all of her patronage was drawn from what may be termed the English section. The ultramontane papers denounced her and she declared that she would never visit Canada again.

But she has the woman's privilege of changing her mind and she has gone to Canada again—hence the eggs!

It must be admitted that Sara was unwise in attacking the faith of any people. She is sixty years old now and might have been expected to have gathered some sense but as she has said, her emotions are prone to carry her away—even to the extent of hurting the box-office. Still the Canadians should have shown some of the gallantry for which their race has ever been noted. A guillotine might have been all very well, for better heads than Sara's have fallen beneath the knife, the tortures of the Inquisition would have given her a new sensation, but rotten eggs—! Bah!

De Witte And Liberal Russia

The cables this morning indicating that De Witte is losing power and suggesting that a military dictatorship is foreshadowed, give especial interest to the recently published views of Captain Demens-Tvorsky regarding the political character of De Witte. Captain Demens-Tvorsky is a Russian liberal who was forced to flee his country a good many years ago, and has been an American citizen for twenty years or more.

Captain Demens-Tvorsky combats very vigorously the conception of De Witte which has been generally accepted in America, of a man who has risen from humble life by sheer force of genius to a commanding position in Russian affairs; that he is a liberal in ideas, and a star of hope to the down-trodden Russians. According to Captain Demens-Tvorsky, De Witte, while not of the hereditary or moneyed aristocracy, comes of a bureaucratic family, and has had a not unusual bureaucratic career; that he has risen through lucky accidents, and by a willingness to serve those who could advance him; that he is without convictions and is in no sense a liberal, nor in sympathy with liberal ideas.

De Witte, Captain Demens-Tvorsky claims, is distrusted by both the liberals and the conservatives. The liberals distrust him because he is not a liberal and because they do not believe he would take a single risk to himself in order to advance the interests of the people of Russia. The conservatives distrust him because they feel he would desert them the moment he thought their cause lost. De Witte's popularity in America is accounted for by Captain Demens-Tvorsky, by his adaptability to conditions and his astuteness as a politician.

There has been much that has been inexplicable in Russian affairs since De Witte was placed at the head of them, on the assumption that he is the man which the popular American mind has pictured him, but which is explained by the light which Captain Demens-Tvorsky has thrown upon his character. The cables have made it clear that De Witte has not had either the confidence or the control of the elements which have been forcing one concession after another from the Czar—which have been wresting political freedom and liberty from the Autocrat of all the Russias. The Zemstvos pledged him support only after long debate, and by a narrow majority. The groups of patriots which are represented by Father Gapon, by the followers of Tolstoi, and by those men and women who have kept aflame the torch of liberty in that darkened land, have very evidently looked on him, not as a man with whom they could work for the accomplishment of cherished ends and purposes, but as one through whom they might possibly work, not by reason of his convictions but of his craft and policy. Captain Demens-Tvorsky has made it clear why the cable should say "liberals have commenced an agitation for the dismissal of the Witte cabinet."

The suggestion of a military dictatorship contained in the cable dispatches was foreshadowed by Captain Demens-Tvorsky. He pointed

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it out as one of the possibilities of the situation, though doubting its probability. His reasons for doubt were largely his belief that the present radical movement was not merely political in character, but economic. The Russian radicals do not look to political emancipation alone for their ideals but to economic revolution.

It would be quite a proper and at the same time a graceful act on the part of the different public bodies of Honolulu to express some word of esteem for Assistant Postmaster Louis Kenake who has given thirteen of the best years of his life to the faithful and efficient discharge of a most important series of duties and who is now going away.

At the banquet to Bishop Liberty last night, Governor Carter explained for the benefit of P. C. Jones, that his recommendation was not for setting aside seventy-five per cent of the federal taxes of the Territory for twenty years, to be then expended etc., but that for the period of twenty years seventy-five per cent should be set aside to be used from year to year etc.

The cables announce that in Warsaw workmen have assassinated two female revolutionary orators. Perhaps these workmen were jewsmiths and were jealous.

County Attorney Douthett's ambition to rid the community of bilks is a very laudable one. But it is to be feared that whoever gave him the idea that it could be done was putting up a confidence game on the earnest but unsuspecting official. Bilks and confidence games date from a very early period.

English is to be the official language in the Philippines after five years. It is ten to one that wherever our soldiers have gone, the Filipinos do their swearing in English, now.

The enforced retirement of President McCall from the presidency of the New York Life, contains an element of poetic justice. McCall became president following W. H. Beers who was

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forced out by continued attacks on his management, in which attacks, many have always believed McCall was an aider and abettor.

It is only about a year ago that the Pinkham report demonstrated the absolute necessity of Chinese laborers for the plantations.

Who will achieve fame by being the first victim of the new anti-expectation regulation?

Now who would have believed that the benevolent looking Brother Benjamin would put morphine in his cough cure? It must have been done when Ben Bruns was not looking.

The New Orleans doctor who claims to have cured a patient of leprosy, insists that it is the first cure in the history of the world not accomplished by a miracle. Still, it is only a year or so since a St. Louis doctor was claiming to have cured a Chinaman in that city. Are we to understand that the New Orleans doctor thinks the St. Louis doctor is a liar?

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No. 1—\$1.55 per cubic yard.
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No. 3—\$2.05 per cubic yard.
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SIXTY DAYS RULE IS SUSTAINED

SUPREME COURT HOLDS THE ACT OF THE LAST LEGISLATURE IS CONSTITUTIONAL—NO TERM TRIALS SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE OPENING OF A TERM UNLESS BOTH LITIGANTS ARE READY TO GO AHEAD.

The sixty day rule stands in the circuit court. The Supreme Court this morning handed down a decision granting the writ of prohibition against Judge De Bolt, restraining him from proceeding to try the case of Mary Buckle vs. S. Ahmi and holding that the act of the last legislature, which provides for no term trials sixty days after a term opens without the consent of both sides, is valid. De Bolt had held the provision to be in conflict with the Organic Act provision that acts of the legislature should deal with one subject which must be expressed in the title.

Under his ruling the circuit judge was proceeding to try the case of Buckle vs. Ahmi, in which C. W. Ashford represents the defense. Ashford objected to going ahead and applied to the Supreme Court for a writ to prevent further proceedings in the case this term. The decision this morning finally grants the writ. The decision is by Chief Justice Frear, Hartwell and Wilder concurring. The syllabus says: "The provisions of the Organic Act that 'each law shall embrace but one subject, which shall be expressed in its title,' should be liberally construed. The title may be broader than the act, provided it is not delusive; the act may cover different matters, provided they have a natural connection and are fairly embraced in one subject. A provision limiting civil jury trials, unless by consent, to the first sixty days of each term in the first circuit, may properly be included in an act purporting in its title to amend a certain section of the Revised Laws relating to terms of the circuit courts." The other provisions of which act relate to the length, adjournment and extension of the terms in the several circuits.

C. W. Ashford appeared for the petition and F. Thompson and Clemons and the attorney general for respondents.